



上智大学
SOPHIA UNIVERSITY

叡智が世界をつなぐ

Sustainability Initiatives at Sophia University

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Sophia University

- A private university founded by the Jesuits in 1913.
- Located in Yotsuya, Tokyo, Japan.
- Number of students: 13,617 (FY2021): 12,233 undergraduate students and 1,384 graduate students.
- Famous for global education.
- Sophia University has been actively committed to sustainability.
 - Research and Education on SDGs: ex. Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies
 - Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures
 - Participation in UN Global Compact, UN Principles for Responsible Investment
 - Office for the Promotion of Diversity(empowering women, work-life balance, minority support diversity mindset)



Sophia University and Sustainability

- Sophia University has been committed to diversity promotion activities, research and education on SDGs and sustainability, and environmental impact reduction.
- In order to further fulfill our social responsibilities, it is essential that we are even more multidimensionally and actively engaged in enhancing social sustainability.
- Sophia University has established the Sustainability Promotion Headquarter in July 2021 to further promote our sustainability initiatives and take them into a higher level.
- Under the initiative of the Headquarter, the activities and effort of each department, faculty, research institute, and student organization will be better coordinated, and faculties, staffs, and students will work together to carry out more multifaceted and proactive activities.

Mission of the Headquarter

The main missions of the The Headquarter are as follows

- (i) **Accurately understand the current situation of** Sophia University relating to the sustainability and SDGs.
- (ii) **Encourage and request relevant departments to address issues** for which our effort has been insufficient and should be further promoted.
- (iii) **Effectively disseminate information** on initiatives on sustainability both inside and outside the university.
- (iv) Continue and strengthen **partnerships and collaboration with external organizations and other stakeholders.**
- (v) Further activate **diversity promotion activities.**
- (vi) **Employ student staffs** and utilize the power of students for wide range of activities.

Student Involvement

The Sustainability Promotion Headquarter aims to collaborative effort among staff, faculty, and students, and involve students in a wide range of activities to incorporate their perspectives as much as possible.

- Sustainability affects the younger generation, and it is necessary for the younger generation to think seriously about sustainability.
- Students are the largest constituents of universities, and universities cannot achieve expected contribution without raising students' awareness of sustainability.
- We have many students' organizations who are active in sustainability and SDGs, and collaboration with such organization is important to use their experiences and resources.

200 students participated in the briefing session; 120 students submitted application, and 10 students have been employed as the first generation of Student Staffs.

Activities of Student Staffs

① Information Dissemination Team

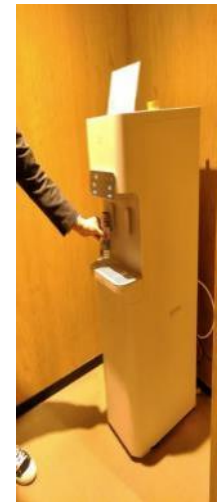
- ✓ Strengthen communication about Sophia University activities with public.
- ✓ Disseminate student initiatives relating to the SDGs.
- ✓ Make publicity materials (ex. SDGs report).

② Campus Improvement Team

- ✓ Change various signs in campus in line with “universal design”.
- ✓ Conduct educational activities in Campus
- ✓ Promoting “Eco Campus” from the students’ perspective (ex. increase water servers to reduce PET bottles).

③ Planning and Implementation Team

- ✓ Implement collaborative projects with various organizations and stakeholders.
- ✓ Organize oncampus events related to the SDGs
- ✓ Conduct study sessions for junior and senior high school students



NEXT STEP

- What can we do to nurture the young generation who should play the key roles in Sustainable Future?
 - Educational programs
 - New programs that broaden students' perspectives and lead to concrete actions.
 - Events for students
 - Events to increase students' interest and give them a concrete idea about necessary actions.
 - Global perspective
 - Student collaboration and joint activities across borders.
 - Further involvement of students
 - More student staffs, more collaboration with students' organizations.

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